

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 1

Introduced by Assembly Member Medina

December 3, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1—Relative to the University of California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 1, as introduced, Medina. University of California: UC Riverside School of Medicine.

This measure states that the University of California, Riverside School of Medicine serves an important role in the State of California by training a diverse workforce of physicians and providing health care to an underserved region.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The mission of the University of California,
2 Riverside (UCR) School of Medicine is to improve the health of
3 the people of California and, especially, to serve Inland Southern
4 California by training a diverse workforce of physicians and by
5 developing innovative research and health care delivery programs
6 that will improve the health of the medically underserved in the
7 region and become models to be emulated throughout the state
8 and the nation; and
9 WHEREAS, Inland Southern California is vastly undersupplied
10 with respect to physicians and this region of California has the
11 lowest supply of physicians per capita than any other region of the
12 state, according to the California HealthCare Foundation; and

1 WHEREAS, In primary care specialties alone, many California
2 counties have far fewer than the 60 to 80 primary care physicians
3 per 100,000 people, which is considered sufficient to meet demand.
4 The Inland Empire has approximately 40 primary care physicians
5 per 100,000 residents; and

6 WHEREAS, Latinos, African Americans, and Native Americans
7 are vastly underrepresented in the physician workforce, and, in
8 the Inland Empire alone, more than 45 percent of the population
9 is Latino, compared to just 5 percent of the physicians in the region;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Inland Southern California also faces a dire health
12 situation, trailing behind much of the state in several key health
13 indicators, including coronary heart disease and diabetes; and

14 WHEREAS, The UCR School of Medicine has received
15 preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical
16 Education, the national accrediting body for allopathic, or
17 M.D.-granting, medical schools, which enables the UCR School
18 of Medicine to begin recruiting students to enroll an inaugural
19 class in August 2013; and

20 WHEREAS, To meet the region's workforce needs and improve
21 the health of the population, the UCR School of Medicine will
22 capitalize on UCR's nationally recognized diversity and the ethnic
23 diversity of the region by expanding the educational pipeline into
24 medicine; and

25 WHEREAS, The UCR School of Medicine will also expand
26 UCR's strength in basic health sciences research to build research
27 expertise in population health and health outcomes research.
28 Through its research, the UCR School of Medicine will address
29 specific health care challenges within Inland Southern California,
30 serving as a catalyst for community-based participatory research
31 leading to innovations in population health, preventive care, and
32 health outcomes; and

33 WHEREAS, UCR is building its medical school from a long
34 history of training physicians in partnership with the University
35 of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) David Geffen School of
36 Medicine. The UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical
37 Sciences currently educates 28 first-year and 28 second-year
38 medical students. Operating for more than 30 years, this partnership
39 with the UCLA School of Medicine has produced more than 700
40 physicians; and

1 WHEREAS, Drawing from UCR's diverse undergraduate
2 population, the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in
3 Biomedical Sciences has established a successful track record of
4 recruiting, retaining, and graduating highly qualified medical
5 students from groups that are underrepresented in medicine. A
6 significant number of programs and partnerships currently exist
7 that serve potential medical school applicants through mentorship,
8 pipeline programs, and leadership training; and

9 WHEREAS, The UCR School of Medicine will continue and
10 expand existing programs, build new programs and partnerships,
11 and track key data concerning the applicant pool and the
12 matriculating students of each class of 50 students. As the UCR
13 School of Medicine increases the class size to 50 students, drawing
14 now from a much larger general applicant pool, the UCR School
15 of Medicine will continue to support programs that enhance the
16 pool of qualified applicants considered for admission; and

17 WHEREAS, The UCR School of Medicine will also partner
18 with existing health care providers for clinical rotations and
19 residency training, building on the relationships that UCR has
20 already established with the region's health care providers; and

21 WHEREAS, The full funding of the UCR School of Medicine
22 would ensure the execution of a vision of the first medical school
23 to be developed in California in more than 40 years, and the UCR
24 School of Medicine is poised to transform medical education by
25 training physicians that will be more attuned to the needs of
26 increasingly diverse and underserved patient populations and will
27 be an outstanding and much needed asset in the state of California;
28 now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the University of California, Riverside
31 School of Medicine serves an important role in the State of
32 California by training a diverse workforce of physicians and
33 providing health care to an underserved region; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
35 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.